

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BOMBAY 02522 271215Z

53

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 COME-00 HEW-06 /024 W

----- 014796

R 270944Z SEP 76

FM AMCONSUL BOMBAY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6786

INFO AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMCONSUL CALCUTTA

AMCONSUL MADRAS

UNCLAS BOMBAY 2522

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ECM, ETRD, IN

SUBJ: POSSIBLE BAN ON EXPORT OF QUININE PRODUCTS

REF: CERP SECTION D

1. BOMBAY'S FINANCIAL EXPRESS (SEPT.24) REPORTED THAT INDIAN GOVERNMENT IS LIKELY TO BAN EXPORT OF QUININE PCIDUCTS. ACCORDING TO A SOURCE IN THE GOVERNMENT-SPONSORED EXPORT EXPANSION COUNCIL FOR CHEMICUWS AND DRUGS, PROPOSED BAN BEING CONSIDERED IN VIEW OF COUNTRYWIDE RECURRENCE OF MALARIA CALLING FOR INCREASED AVAILABILITY OF QUININE FOR CLINICAL USE. PUBLIC HEALTH AGENCIES PRESSURIZING GOVERNMENT TO STOP EXPORTS.

2. ACCORDING TO FINANCIAL EXPRESS, QUININE ITEMS ARE PRODUCED BY TWO STATE GOVERNMENT-OWNED FACTORIES IN TAMIL NADU AND WEST BENGAL. THEIR JOINT ANNUAL PRODUKION IS AROUND 47 METRIC TONS, OF WHICH 30 M. TONS RELEASED FOR EXPORTS TO LOCAL PRIVATE FIRMS. DOMESTIC DEMAND HAD REMAINED STAGNANT FOR SEVERAL YEARS AS A RESULT OF MALARIA ERADICATION PROGRAM.

3. PRIVATE EXPORTERS OPPOSED TO BAN AND SUGGEST THAT DOMESTIC DEMAND FGE ANTI-MALARIAL BE MET THROUGH SYNTHETIC DRUGS. HOWEVER, KNOWLEDGEABLE INDUSTRY SOURCES BELIEVE THAT GOVERNMENT UNLIKELY TO CONCEDE TO EXPORTERS' DEMAND.

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EXPORT EARNINGS ARE RELATIVELY SMALL (\$2.4 MILLION) AND

INDIAN SHARE OF WORLD MARKET FOR QUININE PRODUCTS BELIEVED
TO BE LESS THAN 10 PERCENT. US PURCHASES FROM INDIA RDU
STATED TO BE NEGLIGIBLE. NO EXPORTS OF QUININE EBULPHATE
AND SALTS WERE MADE TO US IN THE PERIOD APRIL-DECEMBER 75,
THE LATEST PERIOD FOR WHICH DATA AVAILABLE.

ROSENTHAL

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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